

MARJORIE SPENCER
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December 7, 1999

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Donna **Shalala**, Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary **Shalala**:

I am writing to express concern about the possible weakening of labeling requirements for irradiated food which is being considered by the Food and Drug Administration. I believe strongly that it is my right to know if the food I buy has been treated with radiation (or genetically modified).

Food products undergo chemical changes **after** exposure to radioactive isotopes. These nutritional and cosmetic changes in the foods warrant disclosure on a prominent place on the package. **Also**, food which is not packaged should be accompanied by a poster in plain view of where it is display& for sale. Labels are required by law to be **truthful** and not misleading to the customer. **Only** clear, honest and **permanent** labeling is **acceptable** for irradiated foods.

I trust that you will defend the consumer's right **to** know in this important decision-making process,

Sincerely,



Marjorie W. Spencer

98N-1038

C4851

CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1038/C4851

See File Number: 92N-0139/C6414

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